



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held June 24, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Knabe:

“Southern California faces a crisis in airport capacity, which threatens to undermine the strength of our regional economy. Over the next 25 years, the Southern California Association of Governments has estimated that air traffic demand in Southern California will more than double, from 80 million annual passengers in 1997 to over 167 million annual passengers. A 28 percent shortfall in airport capacity is also predicted.

“Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is reaching its capacity limits and will be unable to handle this projected increase in airport demand, even if the current LAX expansion proposal is approved. Moreover, apart from the airport congestion itself, passengers traveling to and from LAX to outlying areas impose additional traffic burdens on our already over-burdened freeway network.

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“Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn has proposed to the Federal Department of Transportation that the City of Los Angeles be permitted to lease the El Toro Marine Air Base for use as a commercial airport. If enacted, this proposal would ensure that regional air traffic demand is accommodated regionally. While Orange County residents have voted to reutilize the Marine Air Base for other purposes, it is vitally important that the Federal government consider the regional implications of the disposition of the El Toro Base and seriously evaluate the City of Los Angeles proposal. It is highly unlikely that airport planners will be able to identify a comparable site elsewhere in the Orange County area to develop as a commercial airport. Given the size of the property, its proximity to the coastline where the bulk of the population resides, and the sizeable agricultural buffer surrounding the site, the El Toro Base is ideally suited for conversion to a commercial airport.”

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion that the Board instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to send a letter signed by the Board to Senators Boxer and Feinstein, the Secretary of Transportation, and the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration Administrator supporting the City of Los Angeles' proposal to lease the El Toro Marine Air Base for use as a commercial international airport, and urging the Federal Government to seriously consider this proposal.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“State Senator Kevin Murray has recently introduced Senate Resolution 23 (SR 23). This measure is in response to the City of Los Angeles' goal in acquiring El Toro Marine Corp Base Aviation infrastructure in Orange County for the purpose of operating a commercial and cargo airport for the Southern California region.

“SR 23 calls upon the United States Navy and the Department of Transportation to preserve a national aviation asset and to approve the City of Los Angeles' offer to lease the El Toro Marine Base and operate the facility as a civilian passenger and cargo airport. In recent days, 14 Orange County cities have rallied to support this bid for this regional airport solution.

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“John Wayne, Orange County’s existing airport, is too small to serve that County’s needs, especially with projected passenger and cargo growth. Southern California’s airport problems are a regional, not a local matter. Orange County needs to assume its fair share of the benefits and the burdens of a regional airport and serve the demands of its own residents.”

Therefore, Supervisor Knabe made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s motion be amended to also support SR 23; and instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to send correspondence to the 40 State Senators calling upon them to quickly pass this important resolution.

Allan Beek addressed the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s motion, as amended, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, was duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Molina, Knabe, Yaroslavsky and Burke; Noes: Supervisor Antonovich.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
County Counsel

Letters sent to:

Senator Barbara Boxer  
Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Secretary of Transportation, U. S. Department  
of Transportation  
Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration